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Items 50, 51, 52, 53, 60 (a) and (i)
and 70 of the preliminary list*

IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 45/48 CONCERNING THE SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL I OF THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (TREATY OF TLATELOLCO)

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

AMENDMENT OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS IN THE ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATER

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

NOTIFICATION OF NUCLEAR TESTS

PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

Letter dated 23 May 1991 from the Permanent Representatives of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, we have the honour to request that the attached statement, which was issued by the Secretariat of the Commission on 9 May 1991, be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 50, 51, 52, 53, 60 (a) and (i) and 70 of the preliminary list. Reaffirming the views set forth in their previous communications of 15 June (A/45/314), 9 and 11 July and 21 and 28 November of last year (A/45/339, A/45/352, A/45/804, and A/45/840), the

* A/46/50.

members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific reiterate their categorical opposition to the nuclear testing conducted by France in view of the dangerous consequences which the dumping of radioactive waste has for the marine environment and the resources thereof, and they demand the immediate and permanent cessation of such tests.

(Signed) Fernando CEPEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Colombia to the United Nations

(Signed) Juan SOMAVIA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Chile to the United Nations

(Signed) José AYALA-LASSO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ecuador to the United Nations

(Signed) Ricardo LUNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Peru to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, issued at Santiago on 9 May 1991

In response to reports of the nuclear explosion carried out on 7 May of this year at Mururoa Atoll, the Secretariat of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific once again reiterates the steadfast and categorical opposition of its member States to the carrying out of such explosions and to the dumping of radioactive wastes in the Pacific Basin, as an expression of member States' common policy on protection of the marine environment.

The Commission is particularly disheartened by this news since it has been striving to ensure that appropriate consideration will be given to protection of the marine environment at the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil next year, as outlined in the Tlatelolco Platform adopted last March by the Latin American and Caribbean countries in anticipation of that most important conference.

In pursuance of the above-mentioned policy, which was solemnly laid down in the Viña del Mar Declaration by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, and in accordance with the instructions issued at its eighteenth regular meeting, the secretariat of the Permanent Commission once again draws attention to the grave threat that nuclear explosions pose to the marine environment and the resources thereof, strongly deplores the resumption of such testing in spite of the widespread opposition of the countries of the Pacific Basin and particularly of the member States of this regional maritime organization, and demands once again the immediate and permanent cessation of such experiments.